



Councillor Joe Mihevc
Toronto City Hall
St. Paul's West
Ward 21

MEMO

TO: Toronto East York Community Council

FROM: Councillor Joe Mihevc

RE: **Municipal clearance required by Bell Canada to exclusively use hydro poles in the rear lot of certain Upper Forest Hill homes**

DATE: May 6th, 2008

Toronto Hydro is about to embark on an \$8.7 million project to relocate the existing rear yard hydro infrastructure to above ground padmount transformers in the front yard of select homes in the Upper Forest Hill area of Ward 21.

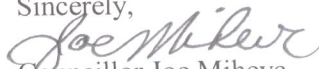
Rogers Cable, who also locates its wires on the rear yard poles, has decided to take advantage of the Toronto Hydro's relocation project and will also be moving its physical wires to the front yard transformers. The only utility that has not decided to relocate their existing wires is Bell Canada. They would prefer to purchase the poles from Toronto Hydro and continue to provide rear lot service. I understand though that for Bell Canada to be able to exclusively use the existing poles, the utility company would need a municipal clearance.

Given that Hydro and Rogers are relocating their physical plant to the front yard and placing the service wires underground, it is critical that Bell Canada follow suit and eliminate the complications associated with retaining the existing pole service. As such, I believe that approval of a municipal clearance for Bell Canada would be inappropriate at this time.

I would therefore move that:

1. That the Executive Director of Technical Services be requested to report to Toronto East York Community Council on the relocation of existing rear yard hydro infrastructure, the relocation of other services and any request by Bell Canada to continue to exclusively use the hydro poles in the rear lots of Upper Forest Hill properties in the area bounded by Elm Ridge Drive to Briar Hill Avenue and Bathurst Street to Allen Expressway; and
2. That, in the meantime, City staff be instructed not to provide to Bell Canada any clearance permission to use the hydro poles in rear lots of Upper Forest Hill properties in area bounded by Elm Ridge Drive to Briar Hill Avenue and Bathurst Street to Allen Expressway.

Sincerely,


Councillor Joe Mihevc
Ward 21, St. Paul's West